FILED

JANICE K. BREWER
SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona Senate Forty-eighth Legislature First Regular Session 2007

CHAPTER 56

SENATE BILL 1306

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 8-817, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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30.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 8-817, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

8-817. <u>Initial screening and safety assessment and investigation protocols: investigations: disclosure of information</u>

- A. The department shall develop initial screening and safety assessment protocols in consultation with the attorney general and statewide with county attorneys, chiefs of police, sheriffs, medical experts, victims' rights advocates, domestic violence victim advocates and mandatory reporters. Any initial screening and safety assessment tools shall be based on sound methodology and shall ensure valid and reliable responses. The department shall establish written policies and procedures to implement the use of the initial screening and safety assessment protocols.
- B. In each county, the county attorney, the sheriff, the chief law enforcement officer for each municipality in the county and the department shall develop and implement protocols for cooperation in investigations of allegations involving extremely serious conduct. The protocols shall include:
- 1. The process for notification of receipt of extremely serious conduct allegations.
- 2. The standards for interdisciplinary investigations of specific types of abuse and neglect, including timely forensic medical evaluations.
- 3. The standards for interdisciplinary investigations involving native American children in compliance with the Indian child welfare act.
 - 4. Procedures for sharing information.
- 5. Procedures for coordination of screening, response and investigation with other involved professional disciplines and notification of case status.
- 6. The training required for the involved child protective service workers, law enforcement officers and prosecutors to execute the investigation protocols, including forensic interviewing skills.
- 7. The process to ensure review of and compliance with the investigation protocols and the reporting of activity under the protocols.
- 8. Procedures for an annual report to be transmitted within forty-five days after the end of each fiscal year to the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate.
 - 9. Procedures for dispute resolution.
- C. The department, the appropriate county attorney and the appropriate law enforcement agency shall cooperate in the investigation of every extremely serious conduct allegation in accordance with the investigation protocols established pursuant to this section. BEFORE IT RELEASES RECORDS IT RECEIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO AN INVESTIGATION, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL TAKE WHATEVER PRECAUTIONS IT DETERMINES ARE REASONABLY NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY AND SAFETY OF A PERSON WHO

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- 1 REPORTS CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT AND TO PROTECT ANY OTHER PERSON THE AGENCY
- 2 BELIEVES COULD BE ENDANGERED BY THE DISCLOSURE OF THE CPS INFORMATION. THE
- 3 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IS NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE CPS INFORMATION IF THE
- 4 DISCLOSURE WOULD COMPROMISE THE INTEGRITY OF A CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES OR
- 5 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 16, 2007.

FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 16, 2007.